

Application Serial No. 09/966,902
Reply to August 11, 2005 Office Action

Attorney Docket No. 1232-4775

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim Status

Claims 1-17 and 22-29 are pending in this application, of which claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 17, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 are independent in form. Claims 1-17 and 22-29 are rejected. Independent claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 17, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 are amended herein to require "news information that contains text" and "outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice." Dependent claims 3, 5, and 14 have been amended to provide agreement with the amended independent claims from which they depend. Support for these amendments is found throughout the specification and drawings, as originally filed, for example at page 2, lines 13-14 and at page 17, lines 14-25. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-17 and 22-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,271,841 to Tsujimoto ("Tsujimoto") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,754,172 to Kubota et al. ("Kubota"). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the characterization of the claims and prior art in the stated rejection and respectfully traverses this rejection.

Tsujimoto is directed to a computer that receives news information in the form of an audio signal, which is always monitored and when a predetermined condition is met, an icon image is changed into a window automatically on a computer's display. Tsujimoto, Abstract. Kubota is directed to method of allowing a viewer of multimedia news articles to register

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specific kinds of information of interest and then only displaying to the viewer the multimedia news articles that are of interest to her. Kubota at col. 1, line 59 – col. 2, line 13.

Regarding independent claim 1, the Examiner contends that the abstract, FIG. 1, col. 7, line 60 – col. 8, line 23, and at col. 8, line 54 – col. 9, line 3 of Tsujimoto disclose a “voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news information as voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information.” August 11, 2005 Office Action at 3. However, amended claim 1 requires “voice output means for outputting the *text* content of the received news information as *an audible* voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information.” Tsujimoto fails to disclose, teach, or suggest such a voice output means. Further, Applicant has reviewed the teachings of Kubota and submit that Kubota is silent regarding a means for outputting text content of received news information as an audible voice.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention as claimed is neither taught nor suggested by, and therefore is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of, Tsujimoto or Kubota, alone or in combination. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection applied to claims 1-17 and 22-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsujimoto in view of Kubota.

Dependent Claims

Applicant has not independently addressed the rejections of the dependent claims. Applicant submits that, in view of the amendments to the claims presented herein and, for at least similar reasons as to why the independent claims from which the dependent claims depend are believed allowable as discussed supra, the dependent claims are also allowable. Applicant

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however, reserves the right to address any individual rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary or appropriate.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided below should a telephone conference be useful or necessary.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4775.

In the event that an extension of time is required, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4775.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: November 10, 2005

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